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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

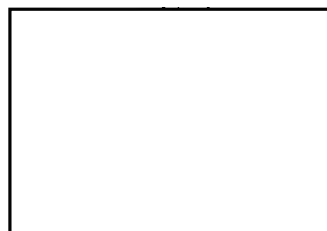
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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Consumer Prices in the Jelenia Gora Area



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1. "The following information concerns recent prices in the Bierutowiec (Jelenia Gora) area, as well as in the surrounding localities of Legnica and Karpacz, and dates through 18 September 1953.

2. [REDACTED] a waitress in the Jelenia Gora area [REDACTED] 850 zloty a month. A handyman earned approximately 500 zloty a month, while a specialized worker earned between 1200 to 1500 zloty a month. The prices below should be viewed in the light of these wages.

3. " ITEM PRICE (in zlotys)

Grain Products

Bread, made of mixed corn flour in round slices,
weighing 100 grams, each 0.80
Bread, made of mixed corn flour, per kilo 3.00

Note: People lined up for bread beginning at 6:00 AM.
Fresh bread was available only at 12:00 noon.

SEE LAST PAGE FOR SUBJECT & AREA CODES

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ITEM	PRICE
<u>Grain Products - continued</u>	
White corn flour, per kilo	7.00-8.00
<u>Dairy Products</u>	
Milk, skimmed, of poor quality, per liter	3.00
Note: The above applies to milk bought in towns like Jelenia Gora. It was fortunate as I bought my milk directly from farmers in the village.	
Cheese, per type, per kilo	32.00
Butter, per kilo	60.00
Eggs, on sale throughout State Stores, not fresh, each	1.35
Eggs, fresh, directly from farmers, each	1.50 - 1.80
<u>Tea and Coffee</u>	
Tea, small 100 gram package, each	7.80
Pure coffee, price in State Stores (only when occasionally available, per kilo	400.00
Pure coffee, available at any time from private kiosks, per kilo	600.00
Sugar, per kilo	15.00
<u>Meat</u>	
Salami: Serdelowa type, per kilo	25.00
Various types of salami priced per kilo	30.00 - 40.00 - 55.00
Ham, Polish, per kilo	52.00
Ox, per kilo	28.00
Pork or calf meat, per kilo	32.00-35.00
Live chicken, depending on weight, each approx.	40.00
Chicken, already cleaned, on sale in State Stores, price per kilo	18.00-20.00
Note: There was also queuing up for meat. Cow or ox meat was rather scarce; there was only one grade of meat, although according to regulations, State Butcher Stores had to supply 3 different categories of meat.	
<u>Chocolate</u>	
100 grams of quite pure chocolate with nuts, each	15.00
Cocoa with sugar, small packages of 100 grams each	12.00
<u>Wines and Liqueur</u>	
Wine, made from apples, per liter (no return of empty bottle required)	14.00
Wine, made from grapes, per liter	25.00
Hungarian wine, per liter	48.00
Vodka, local product, lowest quality, per $\frac{1}{4}$ of liter	16.00
Liqueurs of various types and qualities, per $\frac{1}{4}$ of a liter, from	25.00-36.00
Pure alcohol, per $\frac{1}{4}$ of a liter	38.60
<u>Vegetables</u>	
Potatoes, per kilo	1.50
Tomatoes, per kilo	1.50-2.50

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Vegetables continued

Onions, per kilo

5.00

Carrots, per kilo

1.00-1.50

Note: When the first tomatoes came out at Jelenia Gora and surrounding localities in May/June 1953, they were priced from 60.00 -80.00 zloty per kilo.

Fruits

Apples, per kilo, depending on quality

6.00-9.00

Pears, per kilo

6.00-9.00

Grapes, per kilo, (only one quality)

15.00

Plums, per kilo

6.00-8.00

Lemons, each

10.00

Note: There were no other fruits available.

Shoes and clothing items

Ladies' leather sandals (Zandalki) per pair

99.00

Note: This is the lowest price available, but only occasionally found on the market.

Ladies' leather half-shoes with leather soles,

crudely finished, per pair

350.00-450.00

Ladies' leather sport half-shoes with leather soles,

of much better quality (so called Zamsowki) per pr

585.00-650.00

A similar type of Zamsowki, but with cork heels,

per pair

750.00-850.00

Ladies' leather half shoes with leather soles,

handmade upon order at a private shoemaker,

per pair

850.00

Note: This is the price I paid in April 1953

for a horrible type of ladies shoes!

Children's leather half-shoes, with leather

soles, per pair

106.00

Children's leather half-shoes with leather soles,

of a better quality, per pair

140.00-180.00

Children's Zandalki, per pair

94.00

Ladies' winter leather shoes, per pair

650.00-850.00

Ladies' winter leather shoes, handmade upon

order, per pair

950.00

Ladies' cotton made brassiere (called Biatstanosz)

each

18.00

Ladies' brassieres of a better quality (half silk and half rayon), each

25.00

Maitki, ladies' drawers, rayon material, each

20.00-25.00

Ladies' rayon underwear, each

76.00

A set (underwear & drawers), rayon material, each

136.00

Same set but of cotton material, poor quality,

almost unwearable, each

36.00-40.00

Ladies' winter sets manufactured of something which

had practically no wool, each

76.00

Rayon material, in three different colors and three

different designs (the material I saw was

really terrible.), per meter

52.00

Rayon material, for ladies, of a better quality,

per meter

185.00

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Cotton material, called Katun, per meter	13.00-26.00
This type of material is only occasionally available in State Stores	
Woolen material, per meter:	
60% wool, per meter	135.00-160.00
80% wool, per meter	250.00-350.00
100% wool, per meter	450.00
Note: This type of material is used for both tailored and winter coats for ladies.	
Ladies' ready-made winter coats, each	1,000.00-1,200.00
Ladies' ready made winter coats, with fur (probably hare-fur), each	2,500.00-3,500.00
Children's winter coat (for a 10 year old girl) each	450.00
Tailoring of a dress by a private tailor	60.00
Tailoring of a lady's winter coat (basic material belonging to client of course, all other material supplied by tailor)	350.00-400.00
Ladies' 60% woolen jackets, handmade (horribly made), each	470.00
Ladies' 100% woolen jackets, each	650.00-750.00
Ladies' raincoats (with some sort of rubber lining) each	400.00-500.00
Children's raincoat, each	250.00
Handkerchiefs, each, cotton	8.90
Handkerchiefs, cotton, better material, each	12.00
Nylon stockings, US make, available only in private owned kiosks, per pair	200.00-250.00
Silk stockings, local product, per pair	10.00-25.00
Stelon stockings (a new type of stockings, manufactured at Jelenia Gora, supposed to be a Polish copy of the US type of Nylon stockings, very thin, maximum duration each pair of one week),	75.00-90.00
Children's 100% woolen jacket, each	450.00

Other items

Ladies' gold wristwatches available sometimes even in State Stores, mostly in the <u>Komission</u> Stores (where articles are sold by citizens who need cash), of Swiss-make, each	2,500.00-3,000.00
Ladies' wristwatches available only in <u>Komission</u> Stores, each	600.00-1,200.00
Coal, per ton	400.00
Ladies' hair pins (called <u>Spinki Da Wlosow</u>) each	0.15
Ladies' combs (called <u>Gdrzeben</u>) each	9.50
Lipstick (<u>Sminke Do Lust</u>) without case, each	10.00-12.00
Lipstick, with case, each	25.00-35.00
<u>Elida</u> or <u>Nivea</u> -type of toothpaste, price per tube (if empty tube returned)	4.50-6.50
price per tube (if empty tube not returned)	7.50-9.50
Bath soap, <u>Nivea</u> or <u>Elida</u> -type, per cake	4.50-6.50
Toothbrush, for children, each	3.50
Toothbrush, each	9.50

Note: It isn't rare when a toothbrush can be used only once and sometimes it does not hold up for even one brushing.

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Washing soap, on sale only upon weight, price per kilo 20.00
Electric power, price per one kwh 0.23
Metan gas, price per one cubic meter 0.30

Note: The price quoted holds true only up to a maximum of 100 Kwh and 100 cubic meters respectively of electric power, and metan gas used by a family during a month's time. Any quantity exceeding 100 costs 1.00 zloty, since no family group is allowed to exceed that quantity of either metan gas (used for cooking) or electric power. Therefore, should a family exceed that quantity, they are charged 1.00 zloty for each additional Kwh of electric power or cubic meter of metan gas.

Firewood, price per linear meter 25.00-35.00
Cost of Transportation for one linear meter of firewood 20.00

Note: Firewood is not expensive, and no restrictions have been enforced by the authorities against its sale or purchase. What is extremely expensive is the transportation from the surrounding woods to purchaser's residence."

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